

Bristol CORE Meeting Minutes
Prepared by Kelly Hamshaw
09-03-2020

Attendees: Ian, Valerie, Taylor, Maura, and Kelly

Current Items

A. Bristol Promotional/Recovery Events

- #jumpstartbristol – We worked on this for a bit this summer with business outreach and sort of hit pause for pursuing the Restart grant.

- Restart Vermont Regional Marketing And Stimulus Grant Program – Bristol CORE submitted a \$10,000 grant for local currency promotion in collaboration with Middlebury and Vergennes. Each town will have marketing support from the Addison Chamber of Commerce. Based on the concept of Middlebury’s Midd Night Stroll and will be held in November. Envelopes will be randomly mixed and distributed to the participating stores. It will provide \$13,000 in Bristol Bucks to support local shopping. It is designed for retail shops, lodging, and some services. Submitted on Monday to ACCD and the turnaround is quickly. Taylor suggests maybe talking to business owners to see if maybe they’d be willing to stay open during the promotion. “10-Day, 35K Giveaway”

-Nift Program is recruiting businesses for a local promotion. Maura and Shawna will sign up for Bristol businesses – will be gift cards. Messaging seems to be confusing to businesses and the individuals.

B. Financial Statement

- current profit and loss – We have a positive for this month because of the co-working space rental fee check being sent this year. Mostly the same as last month.

C. Coworking Space

- Status update – We had a temporary lease with Barb and Chris from January to July and Ian re-signed for July to December under similar terms. They would like to lock us in for 2021 for \$18,000. Ian is concerned about signing a contract like that in current conditions however, office space is very hesitant to sign leases right now right now so we’re cautiously optimistic we’ll be able to explore similar terms. Taylor asks if it’s possible if we can have first option until things are more stable. Flexibility is key for the co-working space. Let’s try to not raise prices on co-workers until we’re clear of the COVID-19 conditions.

D. Town of Bristol

1. Main Street Lighting & Sidewalk Improvements – Valerie shares her appreciation for Ian’s monitoring. Sidewalk Sale is moving forward for last weekend of September. Final paving is not likely to be done by then but will try to use it as leverage. CORE will help to get tables and get things set-up. Looking to having music for the Sidewalk Sale. Will try to hold space every two weeks.

Other updates:

- Mountain Street Sidewalk – contractor is going back to take care of homeowner concerns related to yards and driveways.
- The Selectboard is going to do a scoping study for Munsill Ave sidewalks.
- Scoping Study – Stony Hill Update – Presentation to Selectboard on Sept 14th from Dubois and King to feature a path through the woods. Porter and Bristol Trail Network have been involved with the planning effort.
- Emerald Ash Borer Project – Committee will be inventorying trees by roadways and a replacement tree project for the village.
- Town of Bristol has hired a consultant to explore current and future needs for Public Works/Facility Complex on Pine St.
- Solar Project on Landfill – project is delayed on the landfill with stormwater permitting at the state level.
- Stony Hill Business Park Project – Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant will pay for infrastructure and a business is currently committed. Construction to start next spring. Housing element is also moving forward.
- Bristol CORE will help to raise awareness of the special ballot item related to business/development processes related to Act 250 and will work more with Design Review Board.

E. Board Roundtable Discussion

- Halloween ideas – will continue brainstorming.
- Sept. 17th – Public Zoom Forum with VCRD and Addison County Recovery Committee.

Next Meeting – Oct 1, 2020

III. Adjourn.